

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-3 (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A webbing retractor which includes a spool on which a webbing for restraining a vehicle occupant is retracted so as to be taken up and pulled out, a motor, and a clutch which is mechanically interposed between the motor and the spool for transmitting rotation of the motor to the spool so as to rotate the spool in the direction in which the webbing is taken up and disconnecting the transmission of the rotation generated at the spool so as to inhibit the rotation to be transmitted to the rotor, wherein

the clutch comprises:

a case;

a rotating body provided coaxially with the spool, the rotating body rotating when rotation of the motor is transmitted thereto;

a slider which is held on the case through frictional force and thus can move relatively to the rotating body in a predetermined distance; and

a lock bar, normally urged by direct contact with a spring in a direction in which it engages the spool and held in a disengaged position with the spool by the slider, when the rotating body is rotated in the direction in which the webbing is taken up, the lock bar moving apart from the slider so as to be released from the held state, engaging the spool by the urging force, transmitting the rotation of the rotating body in the direction in which the webbing is taken up to the spool in response to an input from the motor, the lock bar permitting relative rotation between the spool and the rotating body in the direction in which the webbing is taken up, when the rotating body is rotated in a direction in which the webbing is pulled out, the lock bar moving toward the slider and is moved to the disengaged position and held there by the slider, and

the rotating body is supported by the case, ~~and the clutch is rotatably supported by the case at both ends of a spindle.~~

5. (Currently Amended) A webbing retractor which includes a spool on which a webbing for restraining a vehicle occupant is retracted so as to be taken up and pulled out, a motor, and a clutch which is mechanically interposed between the motor and the spool for transmitting

rotation of the motor to the spool so as to rotate the spool around an axis and disconnecting the transmission of the rotation generated at the spool so as to inhibit the transmission of rotation from the spool to ~~be transmitted to the motor rotor~~, wherein

the clutch comprises:

a case;

a ratchet provided coaxially with the spool, the ratchet rotating when rotation of the motor is transmitted thereto;

a lock bar, normally urged by direct contact with a spring in a direction in which it engages the spool but normally held in a disengaged position with the spool~~[[,]]~~ such that when the ratchet is rotated in one ~~of the axis~~ directions, the lock bar ~~engaging~~ engages the spool so as to transmit the rotation of the ratchet in ~~the said one of the axis~~ directions to the spool around said axis, and when the ratchet is rotated in ~~the other of the axis~~ an opposite direction, the lock bar ~~being~~ is moved in to a disengaged position and kept there, ~~and wherein~~

the clutch is rotatably supported by the case ~~at both ends of a spindle~~.

6. (Previously Presented) A webbing retractor of claim 5, wherein the ratchet is surrounded by resin material.

7. (Previously Presented) A webbing retractor of claim 4, wherein

the rotating body comprises:

a gear wheel which rotates when rotation of the motor is transmitted thereto;

a rotor which supports the lock bar; and

a spring pawl which is interposed between the gear wheel and the rotor to connect them, the spring pawl transmitting rotation of the gear wheel to the rotor, when load above predetermined value is applied the rotor, the spring pawl disconnecting the transmission of the rotation between the gear wheel and the rotor by the load and making the gear wheel and the rotor run idle with respect to each other, and

the motor is supported by the case.

8. (Previously Presented) A webbing retractor of claim 7, wherein the spring pawl is formed in a ring shape, and equipped with a cover portion.